

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2006-34-C - ORDER NO. 2006-166
MARCH 16, 2006

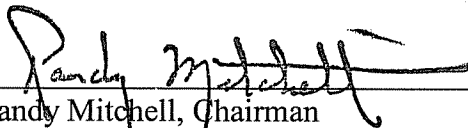
IN RE: Request for Approval of PBT Telecom,) ORDER
Incorporated's Alternative Regulation Plan) FINDING
Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-9-576) NON-AFFILIATION
)

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the election of PBT Telecom, Inc. (PBT or the Company) of alternative regulation under S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-9-576 (Supp. 2005). PBT has filed a request to have its rates, terms, and conditions determined pursuant to the plan described in S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-9-576 (B) (Supp. 2005). Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-9-576 (A), any local exchange carrier (LEC) may elect to have the rates, terms and conditions of its services determined pursuant to the alternative regulation plan described in S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-9-576 (B), provided the Commission has approved a local interconnection agreement in which the LEC is a participant with an entity determined by the Commission not to be affiliated with the LEC. This Commission has approved an interconnection agreement on January 18, 2006, between PBT and MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC (MCI). PBT has filed an affidavit of non-affiliation, stating that PBT and MCI have no corporate affiliation. PBT has elected to have its rates, terms, and conditions determined pursuant to the Plan described in S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-9-576 (B) as set forth in its Alternative Regulation Plan, effective February 18, 2006.

After reviewing the affidavit of non-affiliation, we find that PBT and MCI are not affiliated entities. For this reason, we find that the interconnection agreement approved on January 18, 2006, between PBT and MCI is between non-affiliated entities. Accordingly, we hold that PBT meets the requirements for election of alternative regulation, and that PBT's February 18, 2006 election date for alternative regulation is appropriate *nunc pro tunc*.

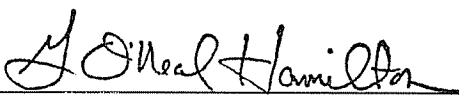
This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:



G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice-Chairman

(SEAL)